

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE****United States Patent and Trademark Office**Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS  
Washington, D.C. 20231

MV

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------

09/618,853 07/18/00 LENZ

T 76138/111

PM82/0531

EXAMINER

TO, T

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3661

7

DATE MAILED:

05/31/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/618,853	LENZ ET AL.
	Examiner Tuan C To	Art Unit 3661

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.  
 2a) This action is FINAL.                  2b) This action is non-final.  
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.  
 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.  
 6) Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.  
 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.  
 8) Claims \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
 10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to by the Examiner.  
 11) The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_ is: a) approved b) disapproved.  
 12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
 a) All b) Some \* c) None of:  
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.  
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  
 \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.  
 14) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

**Attachment(s)**

- 15) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                  18) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_.  
 16) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                  19) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)  
 17) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 3 and 6.                  20) Other:

## DETAILED ACTION

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tsuyama et al. (U.S. 5082081) and in view of Zimmer et al. (U.S. 5342120).

Claims 1-5: Tsuyama et al. discloses a method for adjusting the normal drive slip value of the ASR system (See entire the document) except for the driven wheels are rear wheels. The system of Zimmer et al. disclose ABS/ASR control unit (See column 3, lines 25-27) and mentions that the driven wheels are rear wheel (See the figure). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Tsuyama et al.'s method to include the teachings of Zimmer et al. so that the driver is able to drive vehicle safety while travelling in a condition of deep snow or wet road.

Art Unit: 3661

Claims 6-8: Tsuyama et al. disclose the method for adjusting the normal drive slip value of the ASR system, wherein the increase of the normal drive slip value is limited in dependence on the current vehicle speed (See abstract).

The examiner asserts that the obviousness can only be established by combining Tsuyama et al. and Zimmer et al to produce the claimed invention.

### ***Conclusion***

3. All claims are rejected under 35 U.S. C 103(a).
4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure includes the following: Schramm et al.'s, Claussen et al. (US 5957552).
5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tuan C To whose telephone number is (703) 308-6273.

The examiner can normally be reached on from 8:00AM to 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William Cuchlinski can be reached on (703) 308-3873. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 305-7687 for regular communications and none for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1113.

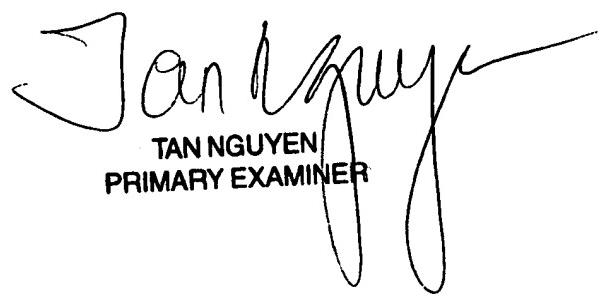
/tc

Application/Control Number: 09/618,853

Page 4

Art Unit: 3661

May 17, 2001



TAN NGUYEN  
PRIMARY EXAMINER